



Founded 1959

Holmes  
County

# HERALD

50¢ Single Copy

*"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."*  
I John 4:7-8

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2017 TWO SECTIONS PHONE 834-1151 hcherald@gmail.com LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI 39095 VOLUME 59 - NUMBER 4

## Local barber found in pool of blood, known drug offender charged with capital murder

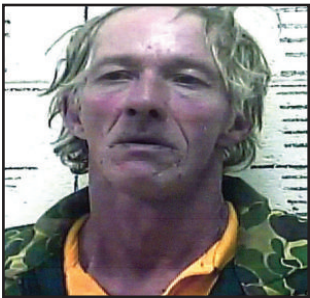
By Matthew Breazeale

A known Lexington drug offender has been arrested and charged with capital murder in the death of a local barber of 50 plus years.

William L. "Billy" Zeigler was found dead at his Lexington home, 312 North Street, Sunday evening, January 22 after a welfare check lead to the discovery of him lying in a pool of blood.

A joint investigation by the Lexington Police Department, Holmes County Sheriff's Department and the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation led to the arrest of 55-year-old Wilson A. Jones of Lexington.

"We got the call Sunday night, between 7:30 and 8 o'clock



WILSON A. JONES

from a neighbor," said Lexington Police Chief Robert Kirklin, Sr. "They were doing a welfare check because Mr. Zeigler normally goes to church Sunday morning. He didn't arrive so they were concerned about him. The neighbor knocked, couldn't get it, so he called his nephew,

Phil Williamson, got him there and he got in (through the use of a key). Mr. Zeigler was located lying, face down in a pool of blood.

"The first thing (Williamson thought) since he just had surgery not long ago," Kirklin continued, "that he had fell and hit his head. Medstat was called to the scene, also the police department. Medstat got there and was going to get his vital signs and noticed he was very stiff. We taped off the scene, Mississippi Bureau of Investigation was called to the scene to assist along with the Holmes County Sheriff's Department so we worked as a joint team, joint effort."



Billy Zeigler's long-time residence, 312 North Street, in Lexington became a crime scene Sunday evening after he was discovered by a family member in the kitchen area lying in a pool of blood. (Photo by Matthew Breazeale)



A black ribbon and floral wreath adorn the outside of City Barber Shop on Spring Street on Monday afternoon, January 23. The shop is where Zeigler cut hair for over 50 years. (Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

Police determined at that point that the possible suspect must have known the victim as there were no signs of forced entry or burglary.

"There was nothing disturbed but the only thing that was missing was the victim's wallet," according to Kirklin. "It appeared that the motive had been robbery. The only person we could think of was (Wilson) Jones. During the investigation we did have quite a few other names come up," but Jones eventually became the central suspect.

"I know (Jones) personally," said Kirklin, "and he was seen in the area several times. It was determined that he knew the victim and was friends with the victim's son."

Jones was arrested on Monday, January 23 between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. according to Kirklin. Jones was spotted walking from the old hospital by Lexington Police, picked up and later interviewed. Kirklin said Jones did come peacefully. "It was determined he was the suspect, regarding the evidence," said

Kirklin.

Jones' state of mind at the time of his arrest appeared to be remorseful and angry. During the investigation Jones eventually confessed to his involvement in the murder. Jones waived his right to counsel or legal representation according to Kirklin.

Kirklin said he could not elaborate further on Jones' state of mind at the time of his arrest if he appeared to be on drugs or alcohol. "Mr. Jones is known to be own drugs," said Kirklin.

"This is two families losing, the victim and the suspect," Kirklin added.

Zeigler was found in the

kitchen area of his home.

"What (Zeigler) did was," Kirklin said, "he sat (Jones) down, got to talking about money, this and that, set him up, asked him to go, (Jones) couldn't get no money so he asked for some milk. When Mr. Zeigler turned his back...that's when he was attacked, that's when (Jones) struck him."

Kirklin said Jones had used, what was earlier described as a "hard object," a handle to a car jack owned by Zeigler.

"We had to locate it," said Kirklin, "(Jones) had done threw it away into the bushes. He got it out the back of Mr.

(Continued on page 3.)

## Durant Police Department investigating cafe shooting

The Durant Police Department Investigation Division is investigating a shooting incident that occurred at the Green Lantern Café on Friday, January 13 at approximately 11 p.m. The shooting resulted in one person being non-fatally wounded.

The department is asking for any information regarding the incident leading to an arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible. Please call in your tip anonymously at Holmes County Crimestoppers at 662-834-0099.

## Holmes County Junior Livestock Show slated for Saturday

By Betsy Padgett

Holmes Co. Ext./4-H Agent

This year's Holmes County Junior Livestock Show is scheduled for Saturday, January 28. Twenty-eight 4-H Youth will be exhibiting 22 beef cattle, 11 goats, 2 lambs and 43 hogs. The show will begin at 10 a.m. with Beef Cattle leading off to be followed by Meat Goats, Market Lambs, then, Market Hogs. We will again welcome Attala County 4-H to join us with their exhibits this year.

One of the fun features of each year's show are the Pee Wee

Showmanship classes for youth ages 4 to 9 that want to try their hand at showing a goat, lamb or pig. 4-H'ers loan their show stock and assist these younger kids so that they can take a turn in the show ring. It is always a fun experience for everyone.

This will be the largest contingent of beef cattle that our little barn has seen in over 40 years. Simmental and Percentage Simmental heifers and bulls will be exhibited along with Beefmasters, Herefords, and locally raised commercial heifers. And, the beef showmanship classes

will pit experienced seasoned showmen against one another for what promises to be two serious exhibitions.

Market Lamb and Goat numbers are about the same. Experienced goat exhibitors are joined by one rookie, Jordan Brooks, who has been showing as a Pee Wee for the past 5 years. Swine numbers are down but this simply reflects our having graduated 7 showmen from their ranks last year. The swine group, for the most part, is considerably younger but no less competitive and a couple of rookies, as well, Hanna Hood and Haley Hammons.

As is usually the case, the show will be accompanied by cooler weather, so "layer-up" and come on down to the barn and join in this once-a-year festivity that brings so many down to the orange barn on Jaycee Drive. If you have never been, you don't know what you are missing. It is truly a family oriented/friendly event where there are four generations represented that WON'T miss it. There will be a concession stand serving home-baked goods, great hot dogs, "famous" pimento cheese sandwiches, and bowls of something warm (chili or maybe stew) served up to knock the chill off and make your venture out worthwhile.



The 2017 Holmes County Junior Livestock Show is scheduled for Saturday, January 28. The show will begin at 10 a.m. with Beef Cattle leading off. Pictured above is the 2010 Livestock Judging team (from left to right): Eryca Edwards, Rayne Tate, John Thomas Murtagh, Blake Thomas and Lane Spell.

(Photo by Betsy Padgett)

Holmes County Herald  
serving the area  
for 57 years



Like us on Facebook!

Holmes County 7-Day Forecast for Jan. 26 - Feb. 1 as reported on THE WEATHER CHANNEL



Thursday

Sunny

52/33

Precip. Chance  
0%



Friday

Sunny

53/33

Precip. Chance  
10%



Saturday

Sunny

54/35

Precip. Chance  
0%



Sunday

Mostly Sunny

52/30

Precip. Chance  
10%



Monday

Sunny

51/35

Precip. Chance  
0%



Tuesday

Sunny

59/38

Precip. Chance  
10%



Wednesday

Sunny

59/39

Precip. Chance  
10%

Check out our  
Web site at  
HolmesCountyHerald.com



8 08805 93485 4